



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

# Work Zone Best Practices Guidebook

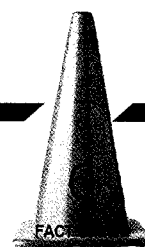
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American Association  
of State Highway and  
Transportation Officials

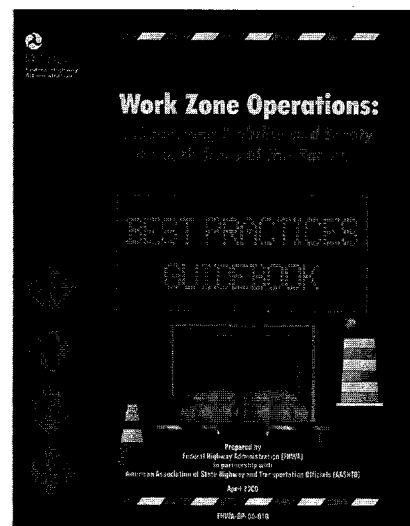


Federal Highway  
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In partnership with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recently published a *Work Zone Operations Best Practices Guidebook*. The Guidebook promotes the sharing of effective work zone technologies and practices among practitioners across the nation. It is a reference document of "state-of-the-practice" technologies and approaches for work zone mobility and safety management, and will be updated as the state-of-the-practice evolves. FHWA hopes that the information in the Guidebook helps practitioners in making informed decisions and taking actions that improve the operational efficiency and safety of the nation's highway system.

The Guidebook contains information on 262 work zone best practices identified through a 1998 scanning tour of 26 States. The best practices cover all aspects of roadway improvement planning, design, and construction. These practices were first recorded in the 1998 FHWA report *Meeting the Customer's Needs for Mobility and Safety During Construction and Maintenance Operations*. The report organizes the practices into 11 major groupings of similar practices so that readers can find all of the practices that deal with a particular topic. The Guidebook takes this collection of work zone best practices and makes them more easily accessible by providing a series of cross references and a topical index that enables users to find best practices in several different ways.



## Topics Covered in the Guidebook

Best practices are grouped into 11 major areas:

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| ■ Policies/procedures              | ■ Public relations/education/outreach                               |
| ■ Prediction modeling and analysis | ■ Planning and programming  |
| ■ Project development/design       | ■ Contracting and bidding   |
| ■ Enforcement                      | ■ Traveler and traffic information                                  |
| ■ ITS and innovation technology    | ■ Specifications and construction materials, methods, and practices |
| ■ Evaluation and feedback          |   |

For each major area, the Guidebook contains an assessment of the state-of-the-art for work zone practice, a brief description of how transportation agencies can achieve the state-of-the-art, a list of the best practices organized into more specific subcategories, and a description for each practice. The descriptions include:

- Reference number for the best practice (used in the cross-references section)
- Location where the best practice was observed
- Title for the best practice (used in the *Meeting the Customer's Needs* report)
- Description of the practice/approach/technology